

MINUTES
City Council Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Mayor Bethune welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Opening: Pastor Jonathan Phillips, Silk Hope Baptist Church offered the invocation and Mayor Bethune invited everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Members: Mayor Bethune presided. **Council Members:** Bruce Campbell, Rosetta Cody, Marcia Daniel, Bessie Kicklighter, Debbie Ruiz and Kim Tice.

Staff: Ron Feldner, City Manager; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Ben Brengman, IT Director; David Lyons, Chief of Police; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director; Ron Alexander, Planning Director; Blake Hodge, Fire Chief; Benny Gooze, Public Works Director and Pam Franklin, HR Director. Absent: Charles Draeger, Water Operations Director.

Mayor Bethune said City Council held a pre-agenda session prior to tonight's meeting. He said no decisions or votes were made during the pre-agenda session.

Informal Public Comment: Mayor Bethune opened the floor to received public comment from the audience.

Ms. Sharon Bethune, 2621 Woodlawn, said on behalf of the Garden City Housing Team I would like to thank City Council for their efforts in helping us to get a CHIP grant for 2016.

Ms. Bethune updated City Council on the activities of the housing team and she thanked the volunteers, businesses, churches, and community leaders for their time and efforts in support of the housing team.

There being no further questions or comments from the audience, Mayor Bethune closed the informal portion of the meeting.

Formal Public Comment

Formal Request to Address City Council: Mayor Bethune said we have a formal request by Mr. Rodney Williford to address the City Council on his concerns regarding the railroad causing excessive traffic stoppage in the Chatham Villa area and getting another grocery store in Garden City. He said we will move on, because Mr. Williford is not here probably due to the bad weather.

City Council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to approve the city council minutes dated 5/16/16 and workshop synopsis dated 5/23/16.

Staff Reports

HR Director presented the monthly activities report for the Human Resources Department.

IT Director presented the monthly activities report for the Information Technology Department.

Public Works Director presented the monthly activities report for the Public Works Department.

Parks & Recreation Director presented the monthly activities report for the Parks & Recreation Department.

City Manager Updates

Railroad Quiet Zones Feasibility Study: City Manager asked Chief Lyons to update City Council on the status of the railroad quiet zones feasibility study.

Chief Lyons said the consultant visited thirteen crossing during his two day visit. He said we received a preliminary report, but there were some items that needed better clarification. He said the consultant is modifying the report and we should receive the final report this by the end of this week.

Mayor Bethune said I feel we are making a step in the right direction with having the study done. He said we may schedule a town meeting after council has an opportunity to review and consider the options proposed in the study. He said we now have weekly conference calls with the railroad and we are looking at the possibility of getting a time table of the train schedule so we can get it out to people.

Items of Consideration

Ordinance – Zoning Map Amendment (Dean Forest Road Parcels): Clerk of Council the first reading of the heading of an ordinance to amend the zoning ordinance and map of Garden City, Georgia as amended, to rezone certain properties located at 224 thru 228 Dean Forest Road from its present zoning classification of “R-A” to an “I-2” zoning classification, except for the westernmost sixty (60) feet of said properties adjacent to Dean Forest Road which shall be rezoned to a “C-2” zoning classification; to rezone from a “R-2” zoning classification to a “C-2” zoning classification the properties located at 216 Dean Forest Road, 4919 Travis Field Road, 220 Dean Forest Road, 218 Dean Forest Road, 214 Dean Forest Road, 212 Dean Forest Road, 210 Dean Forest Road, 206 Dean Forest Road, 204 Dean Forest Road; and certain properties owned by Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph on Old Louisville Road; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion to approve the ordinance on the first reading, seconded by Councilmember Campbell. Councilmember Campbell, Councilmember Cody, Councilmember Daniel, Councilmember Kicklighter, Councilmember Ruiz and Mayor Bethune voted in favor with Councilmember Tice opposed.

Mayor Bethune said since the vote was not unanimous the ordinance will come back before council for the second reading at the June 20 council meeting.

Resolution – Declaration of GCFD’s 1999 Ford Flatbed Hose Fire Truck as Surplus Property: City Clerk read the heading of a resolution by the City Council of Garden City, Georgia, that they do hereby declare the City’s 1999 Ford flatbed hose fire truck as surplus property and that they further approve the transfer of said equipment to the City of Savannah in exchange for Savannah’s commitment to utilize the truck for responding to industrial fires occurring within Garden City as well as in Chatham County, Georgia.

Upon motion by Councilmember Tice, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

Resolution – Declaration of GCFD’s 1986 Brush Fire Truck as Surplus Property: Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by the City Council of Garden City, Georgia, that they do hereby declare the City’s 30-year-old brush fire truck as surplus property and that the vehicle be disposed of at public auction pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 36-37-6(z) for a purchase price of between \$3,000 to \$5,000 which shall be used by the City to fund supplemental 2016 budget items for the City’s fire department.

Upon motion by Councilmember Campbell, seconded by Councilmember Tice, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

Resolution – Declaration of GCFD’s 1990 E-One Pumper Truck as Surplus Property: Clerk of Council read the heading of a resolution by the City Council of Garden City, Georgia, to declare its 25-year-old 1990 E-1 pumper fire truck as surplus property; and that the truck be sold at public auction pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 36-37-6(a) at the asking price of \$35,000; that if no acceptable offers are made, the truck be re-auctioned with the City’s reserving the right to reject any and all bids; and that if no acceptable bids are made, the truck be sold to another governmental agency at a negotiated fair market price.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Cody, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the resolution.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Ruiz, seconded by Councilmember Campbell, City Council voted to adjourn at 6:31 p.m.

Transcribed by Clerk of Council

Approved by City Council 6/20/16